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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 6TH AUGUST.

A ROUEN correspondent reports that a terrible catastrophe occured at noon, on July 19, at Dieppedalle. The steamer *Asturiano*, with cargo of 8,840 barrels of petroleum, took fire. The flames soon spread to the combustible fluid, and terrific explosions followed in rapid succession. Six men were killed, and two others, badly injured by burns, had to be conveyed to the hospital. The vessel was totally destroyed.

IT is reported that the Czar will visit Baku in October, and will proceed thence *via* Merv and Bokhara to Samarcand. Great preparations are being made for the Czar's reception by the municipality of that town. One hnndred and fifty thousand roubles will be devoted to the decoration and illumination of the principal thoroughfares.

CHOLERA has increased at Rawal Pindi. The King's Dragoon Guards are ordered to camp.

"TRUTH" hears that Lord Salisbury intends to offer life peerages, supposing that he remains in office long enough to enable him to do so, to our Commander-in-chief, Sir Frederic Roberts, Sir Henry Layard, Sir Edward Malet, Sir Augustus Paget, Sir Mountstuart Grant-Duff, Sir Edward Thornton, Sir John Savil, Mr. Evelyn Ashley, Mr. E. P. Bouverie, Sir Frederic Peel, Lord President Inglis, Lord Chief Justice Morris, Sir Frederic Leighton, Sir William Dunber, and the present Lord Advocate, who will shortly be appointed Lord Justice Clerk of Scotland, in succession to Lord Monerieff, who is going to resign.

IT is said that Mr. F. B. Peacock will return to Calcutta during the next cold season. 'It was generally understood that he went on leave preparatory to retirement, and would not return to India. It may be possible that Mr. Peacock may return without resuming his position in the Civil Service, but it is not stated that such is the case.'

Indian Engineering, with reference to the Hindu Hostel in Calcutta, says:—"We learn that this Hostel has not escaped the fate which befalls nearly all buildings in Calcutta—the inevitable crack has appeared, in spite of well-constructed foundations, and substantially built plinth and walls. * * * We have ascertained that the foundations of the Hostel were designed so as to press nowhere with a greater load than a ton per square foot, that as good materials were used, and that they were as well put together, as in any structure now standing in the city."

JOHNSON, the English "masseur," accidentally killed the other day, while stuggling with his keepers in a Parisian lunatic asylum, has probably shampooed more principalities and powers than any other man that ever lived, says the *Pall Mall Gazette*. The Prince of Wales, Lord Lytton, Cardinal Howard, the emperor of Brazil, and General Boulanger have all (literally) passed through his hands. 'Was it misanthropy begotten by his employment that drove this gymnosophist to a madhouse? Whatever may have been the case in ancient Greece, it is certain that under the conditions of modern civilization the undraped human frame is apt to be a humiliating object. Carlyle's Teufelsdrockh chucked grimly at the notion of a naked House of Peers, but poor Johnson's studies in nude nobility were real, not imaginary. The habit of regarding Emperors, Princes, Cardinals, Ambassadors, and—General Boulanger, from the mere forked-radish point of view, might well beget a cynicism like that of Gulliver after his sojourn among the Yahoos.'

THE *Morning Post* is responsible for the statement that a rule is to be shortly passed confining the issue of free passes on the different State lines of Railway only to European employes; natives will no longer be allowed this privilege. We refuse to believe such a statement.

A FERMENT continues in Ameins, and the police and military are patrolling the streets. They have succeeded in dispersing the crowds. Conflicts between the men on strike and the police continues in Paris.

IN the House of Commons there was protracted debate on the report of the Committee on the Special Commission Bill. Amendments proposed by the Home Secretary, empowering the arrest of persons failing to answer summonses and punishing them for being guilty of contempt of Court, have been adopted. Numerous amendments were aforwards brought forward by Irish members, but rejected as a matter of course.

TUESDAY, 7TH AUGUST.

AUSTRALIA is suffering from a plague of mice. It is said that from Coomebarabran to Coolah there is hardly a residence that is not troubled in this way. The mice come in droves and eat everything in the place. In one station, 2*s* per hundred was offered for their destruction and during a single night 2,000 were killed. The price then went down to 1*s*. In one hotel in three nights 1,000 mice were killed with a mixture of flour and strychnine. At another place the mice ate the whole carcass of a freshly killed sheep in one night, leaving only the bare bones by the morning. At another station a man was kept whose sole duty was to keep the mice away from the provender during the time the horses were eating it, and this the man found a difficult task. The week before the race at Coolah, the vermin got into the horse-boxes at the station and actually ate the bandages from the legs of the racehorses. Sleeping people are said to have been attacked by them. The crops were being destroyed. Many fields, acres in extent, had been abandoned the corn being eaten completely away. People were at their wit's end to devise the best means of destroying the pest. The mice burrowed in the fields, like rabbits in miniature warrens.

AN American magazine states that the negro is changing in appearence, and losing some of the birthmarks peculiar to the African race. The flat-nosed, kinky-headed negro is passing away, and becoming an unknown race. All the colored children show the change. Among the females long hair of that pecular woolly appearance hangs in long braids or curls down their backs. Aquiline noses and smaller mouths, with thinner lips, are the rule. For years and, in fact, ever since their freedom, the negresses have endeavoured to do away with the short and kinky hair bestowed upon them by their ancestors. Much of their spare money is invested in various hair-tonics and invigorators, and the long attention and care bestowed upon it is shown in their descendants.

ITALY has notified to the Powers that her flag has been hoisted at Zulu, south of Massowah, and that her Protectorate has been proclaimed.

M. GOBLET in a note to the Powers states that Italy has not observed the rules of the Berlin Conference with regard to the acquisition of Massowah. Signor Crispi's circular was the first intimation of its occupation by the Italians. Consequently the capitulations were in force till that time.

THE strike in Paris is extending to all the trades. There are frequent collisions with the police.

THE recent resolution embodying the education policy of the Government of India is to be published in England as a Parliamentary paper.

IT is said that the report of the Currency Commission will be further delayed till the middle of October, and that irreconciliable differences exist between the various sections of the Commission.

A RATHER serious accident occurred on the Northern Bengal Railway on Monday at 1 A. M. to the up-mail train which left Calcutta on Sunday. The affair happened at Sultanpur station, about sixty miles from Sara Ghat. The engine parted from the train as it was approaching the station, and the driver did not notice that he had left his train behind, nor did the guard notice that he had lost his engine. The engine slacked off on getting into the station, and the train caught it up, colliding with it, add throwing five or six carriages of the line, three of which were smashed up, while the others were more or less damaged. Fortunately the carriages were empty, except one compartment, in which there was a native passenger and a railway employe, both of whom were badly injured. Mr. Finney and several other departmental officers proceeded to the spot to investigate the cause, which is attributed to the carelessness of the driver and the guard.

WEDNESDAY, 8TH AUGUST.

SIR JAMES FERGUSSON, in reply to a question, said that negotiations continue for the extension of the British protectorate over North Borneo, Sarawak, and Brunei.

AN accident took place at the Lonand station of the Southern Marhatta Railway. An old man and a young boy with a bullock were passing along the rails, when, on the approach of a train, the bullock got frightened and was killed, and the boy and the old man were severely injured.

THE three months' special leave for Burmah is likely to be extended to all who have served since the Burmah force was reorganized.

THE Bonai expedition has just returned to Chaibasa. It appears that the whole Gond race of Bonai had revolted against the Raja, and were robbing his granaries as well as those of his supporters. All the Gond leaders have surrendered to Messrs. Renny and Stack, and are said to have asked for a hearing of their grievances by the Deputy Commissioner. The cause of the disturbances has not yet been made known. The expedition traversed in about three weeks nearly 200 miles of wild country, most of which, lying in the Kemighar and Bonai States, is almost impassable at this most unhealthy season of the year. From the absence of any kind of roads for the greater part of the distance it had to make its way up the beds of streams and nullahs through dense forests and jungle, and over mountains ranging from 2,000 to 3,000 feet high. The little expedition seems to have encountered great hardships, owing to almost incessant rain, which brought down the mountain torrents, stopping progress and making a misery of camping in the open. In spite of all difficulties it managed to keep in efficient working order till near the end of the return journey, when fever and dysentery laid up about half of the party.

GOOD progress has been made in preparing estimates of the cost of the Allahabad water works, and the leading points of the scheme will be placed before the Municipal Commissioners for settlement at an early date. Mr. Hughes's project is to pump water from the Jumna at Karela Bagh, a point beyond all chance of contamination from the sewage of the city, and to deliver it into a settling tank in or near the Khusroo Bagh. It will then be filtered and stored in a low-level under-ground reservoir. Another set of engines will then pick up the filtered water, and distribute it at a suitable head of pressure throughout 15 miles of piping, well fitted with stand-posts, flushing hydrants, and bathing platforms. The distributing station has been fixed at Khusroo Bagh, because it is the centre of the system, on well raised ground. The total height to which the water will be pumped is 140 feet.

SOME persons who were well acquainted with the late Emperor Frederick propose to publish the memoirs of his life, and will collect the materials with that object. It is understood that some members of the Imperial family will also contribute to this publication. Baron von Roggenbach is designated as one of the personages who will take an important part in the matter.

"ATLAS," in the *World*, writes :—"With regard to the Parnell letters, the statement of the *Daily News* that these documents were hawked about the newspaper offices for sale before the *Times* got hold of them, is absolutely destitude of foundation. The letters in question were never at any time offered to the *Daily News*, or to any other newspaper. I will not gratify Mr. Parnell's very natural desire to know how they got to the *Times*; but the channel through which they reached Printing House Square afforded a very definite guarantee of thir authenticity."

A COMPANY has been formed in London, called "The Ladies' Dwelling Company (Limited)." The Directors are all influential persons. The object of this institution is to meet the urgent and increasing demand existing in London and other large towns for buildings in which single women, either earning or in possession of small incomes, may live with greater economy and comfort, and under more protection, than in ordinary lodgings, without sacrificing either their privacy or independence.

THURSDAY, 9TH AUGUST.

WE find from the Trade Accounts of British India for the two months, 1st April to 31st May 1888, that nearly 4½ millions cwt. of wheat were exported from India during those two months. We observe that in Bengal there has been a falling off, the exports for 1888 being 35 per cent. below those of 1886. Bengal, it is needless to say, is chiefly dependent for its wheat supplies upon Behar and the North Western Provinces and Oudh, where there was a contraction of the area under wheat last season owing to continuous, heavy and inopportune rainfall. Bombay exported 5 per cent. above the figures for 1887, though below those of 1886. The exports from Bombay consist mostly of the produce of the Presidency and of the Central Provinces in both of which tracts the season was a good one. Sind shows a considerable increase on the figures of the preceding year, though the despatches are much below those of 1886. The shipments from Karachi consist mostly of the produce of the Punjab, where the season was on the whole favourable. The wheat industry of the Central Provinces seems to be fast developing. It is worthy of note that the exports of wheat from India to the United Kingdom have been diminishing, yearly, as also those to Italy, which, in 1888, received 59 per cent. less than in the previous year. But France seems to be increasing its supplies from India, those of this year being somewhat near the figures for the United Kingdom. The total exports of wheat from India during 1887 amounted to a little over 13½ millions cwt. but this year the trade does not promise to be so active. The demand in the English market for foreign wheat has been rather weak this year.

A MOST interesting paper in the *Contemporary Review* is by Emile de Laveleye, on "The Future of Religion." The writer examines the causes which, in his judgment, are undermining religion to-day, and has some shrewd things to say about each. Touching, for example, the spread among the working classes of Europe of a Socialism which brings Atheism in its train, he says:—"The workman who stands up for equality rejects Christianity, which brought the good tidings to the outcast and the desolate. Christ declared that 'the last should be first,' and His word is proscribed by those to whom it promises freedom. By a similar and no less strange contradiction, the majority of the partisans of democracy in the present day adopt the tenets of Darwinism and Positivism. Darwinism applied to social science sets aside all notions of equality, and simply glorifies the triumphs of the strongest and the cleverest." Further, he says:—"An atheist, if he argue consistently, will not expose his life to defend either his country or his fellow man; for, if *all* really dies with the body, why should he sacrifice that by which he enjoys all the rest? Abnegation such as this would be absolutely folly and the sacrifice complete trickery. The denial of the spirituality of the soul uproots all reasonable motives for being just and honest. If I can enrich myself and escape the penal code, why should I not do so? The blaze of gold soon makes men forget a slur on the moral character. I see no good reason for abstaining from any indelicacy of conduct, from an abuse of another's confidence, or even from theft, if all this may go unpunished and be profitable to myself. Apart from religion, what influence is there to encourage good and withstand evil propensities?"

THE Gilchrist Trustees not willing to sever their connection from the educational advancement of India, have determined to continue to throw open the scholarship to Indian candidates until further notice on the same conditions as heretofore. An Examination of Competitors will be held on the 14th January next year and following days. The examination being the Matriculation Examination of the London University all candidates who pass it rank as members of that University and may claim certificates of such pass and proceed to England and complete their education without being called upon to pass any further entrance test, even though they fail to secure the Gilchrist Scholarship.

IT is proposed to make a knowledge of one of the vernacular languages of Southern India a compulsory examination test for Eurasian and Europeans seeking admission into the public service. The Government consider that hitherto the service has not been benefited nor have the interests of the Eurasian Community been really promoted by not enforcing a pass in this test. Hindus and Mahomedans, they argue, have now to pass, what must be to them, a severe test in English, which virtually is their second language, and it is not too hard on the Eurasian and European to require him to pass in a language he like the native has to acquire. The proposal it is urged goes in the direction of equalization.

FRIDAY, 10TH AUGUST.

THE Madras Government's review of the last Administration Report of the Travancore State, says:—"The Dewan's report is generally indicative of the wish of the Administration to promote the happiness and material welfare of the people, and if the Magisterial Courts had shown a cleaner record, there would have been little in this report of a year's administration on which to make adverse comments. There is much deserving warm approval."

THE French police have received instructions to discover the authors of an ingenious political trick which consists of defacing the coins of Nepoleon III, and substituting the name of Boulanger I., Empereur, with the date 1888. So far the substitution has been confined to 10 centine pieces, and has been treated as a political joke. The authorities now rightly consider that it is time to interfere with a flagrant mutilation of the national coinage to be utilized for the Boulangist propaganda.

THE Viceroy in May last sent the following letter to the Maharajah of Travancore, in reply to one received from His Highness:—"To H.H. Sri Padmanabha Dasa Vanji Bala Rama Vurma Kulashekara kereetapati Mani Sultan Raja Rama Raja Bahadur Shamser Jung of Travancore. "My honoured and valued friend,—I have received with pleasure your Highness's letter of the 7th ultimo. The expression of personal good-will which it contains are very gratifying to me, and the kind and sympathetic language in which you have alluded to Lady Dufferin's efforts to alleviate the sufferings of the women of India, give both Her Excellency and myself the most sincere pleasure. I also acknowledge with much satisfaction your Highness's offer to place the resources of your State at the disposal of the British Government for the defence of the Empire. On behalf of the Government of India, I tender you my cordial thanks for this expression of your Highness's loyalty, which I shall not fail to communicate to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress of India. I regret that I shall not have an opportunity of meeting your Highness before my departure from India. It would have been a special pleasure to me to have made the acquaintance of a ruler so well-known for his wisdom and liberality. I desire to express the high consideration which I entertain for your Highness, and to subscribe myself Your Highness's sincere friend, Dufferin."

THE *Eastern Herald* says: "His Highness Maharaja Shivajee Row Holkar G. C. S. I. has been pleased to command that from the beginning of 6th June 1888, the Revenue cess known as *Karja chukoti* assessed at nearly Rs. 2,34,915 and levied from the year 1288 Fuslee, be wholly abolished throughout his Highness' territories."

THE *Times of India* understands that at the present moment there is a little friction between the Judges of the Bombay High Court and the Government of Bombay regarding the arrears of judicial work in four districts of the Bombay Presidency. The Government have passed a Resolution drawing attention to these arrears, and the Judges have since sent a communication complaining that, inasmuch as they are entrusted with the direct supervision of the administration of justice in the mofussil, they should have been consulted before the Government took 'any action in the matter.'

THE Government of Bombay have finally and definitely decided that Sir Dinshaw Manockjee Petit's munificent gift of a lakh and a quarter of rupees shall be devoted to the building of an Hospital for Women and Children in connection with the Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy Obstetric Hospital. Sir Dinshaw has assented to this proposal.

THE dramatists and composers enrolled in the French "Society of Authors" received between them £118,000 in the course of last year from the managers of the different theatres in which their pieces were performed. The largest contributors to the fund were the Opera and the Theatre Francais; the sum received from each being something over £8,000. The Opera Comique paid in £6,000 as "droits d'auteur," the Varietes about the same amount, the Gymnase £4,000, and the Odeon, where the classic repertoire still holds a large place, £2,000 (all in round numbers). Nearly two-thirds of the entire amount came from the Parisian houses. The sums received from "abroad" barely exceeded £8,000. As the society numbers 331 members, the share accruing to each averages somewhere about £350. But as a matter of fact the distribution of the fund is extremely unequal, the bulk of it finding its way into the pockets of a few popular authors. Thus, Meilhac received a matter of £40 a day regularly during the run of "Decore" at the Varietes. Dumas, Sardou, Pailleron, and Feuillet are also members of the society, as are Gounod, Ambroise Thomas, Messenet, Delibes, and Saint-Saens; and when these favourites of the public have pocketed their share of the spoil but little can be left for distribution among their humbler *confreres*.

SATURDAY, 11TH AUGUST.

ON the arrival of the 500 Gurkhas sent to reinforce Colonel Graham at Gnatong, it is expected that the augmented force will endeavour to clear this side of the passes of the enemy, though there is understood to be no intention of advancing into the Tibetan's territory. The whole idea is believed to be simply that of freeing Sikkim territory from the Tibetans' forces, who have now advanced four to five miles inside the border. The policy of Government would thus appear to have undergone no change.

THE Meeting of the Legislative Council has been postponed from the 8th till the 15th.

DURING the next cold weather an extensive railway reconnaissance will be made in Upper Burma, the whole of the Mu Valley being examined, and the country further north towards Mogaung and Bhamo explored by a special party of engineers.

THERE is a rumour in Umballa that treasure to some fabulous amount has been discovered buried somewhere on the Putialla-Bhatinda Railway, and that guards have been mounted near the spot, but whether the wealth goes to Putialla or the British Government is not announced.

THE *Pioneer* says:—"Sir John Gorst's remark that Government had not decided on the report of the Indian Public Service Commission, was apparently intended to apply to the Government of India, who are now considering the form their despatch should take."

THE result of a consultation between the Nizam's minister and the Public Works authorities at Simla, regarding railway extension in the Hyderabad State, is said to be that complete surveys and detailed estimates will be made of both the Raipore and Chanda lines, preliminary to a final decision as to which project should be adopted.

THE total number of deaths registered during the week ending 4th August was 193 against 169 and 159 in the two preceding weeks, and higher than the corresponding week of last year by 17 there were 12 deaths from cholera, against 15 and 12 in the two preceding weeks; the number is lower than the average of the past quinquennium by 2. There was one death from small-pox during the week. The mortality from fevers and bowel-complaints amounted to 42 and 19 respectively, against 34 and 15 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 23.2 per mille per annum, against 23·7, the mean of the last five years.

IT is reported that some disturbances have broken out among the Ghilzais locality which was the scene of last year's rebellion, but their precise nature and extent are not known in this country. The Amir is apparently convinced that the agitation must be sternly and promptly suppressed. Accordingly, as a preliminary measure, he is executing the hostages whom he took from the Ghilzais last year. The men are being executed at the rate of about six daily. With the necessity of devoting attention to the possibility of another Ghilzai insurrection and a Shinwari outbreak, the Amir will probably have to hold in temporary abeyance his projects in Bajour.

THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, BOW-BAZAR STREET).

(SESSION 1888-9.)

LECTURE by Babu Asutosh Mukerjee, M. A. F. R. A. S., F. R. S. E. on *Tuesday*, the *14th Inst.*, at 4 P. M

Subject: Theory of Analytic Functions. Geometric Illustrations of Infinitesimals.

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on *Tuesday*, the *14th Inst.*, at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Expansion by Heat.

LECTURE by the Rev. Father de Penaranda, S. J., on *Wednesday*, the *15th Inst.* at 7½ P. M.

Subject: The Earth, and its Satellite.

LECTURE by the Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on *Thursday*, the *16th Inst.* at 7½ P. M.

Subject Refraction (Continued).

LECTURE by Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, M. A., on *Friday* the *17th Inst.* at 4½ P. M.

Subject: Prelude to the Laws of Motion.

LECTURE by Babu Pramatha Nath Bose, B. Sc., F. G. S., on *Friday*, the *17th Inst.* at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Igneous Rock.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.,
August 11th, 1888. *Honorary Secretary*

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The Hindoo Patriot

MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 1888.

THE UNCOVENANTED SERVICE.

ALTHOUGH Mr. H. S. King's motion for the appointment of a Select Committee of the House of Commons, for enquiring into the grievances of the European members of the Indian Uncovenanted Service, was rejected by a large majority, those members are still carrying on their agitation with the object of securing the end they have in view. The London Committee of the Uncovenanted Service Association, of which Mr. King is the guiding genius, have issued an address, as they call it, to the Indian Committees and to individual European members of the Service in general, in which they complain that the Under-Secretary, Sir J. Gorst, made some "misleading statements" in the House of Commons in consequence of which Mr. King's motion was lost. As this is a serious charge against the Under-Secretary, and as some of the alleged "misleading statements" have reference to the Native members of the Uncovenanted Service, we purpose in this article briefly to enquire whether the Under-Secretary's statements were really of the nature they are represented to be. The first "misleading statement" with which the London Committee charge Sir John Gorst is, "that whilst the Europeans among the Uncovenanted Service found many advocates in the House, the Natives were in a very different position, and it was his duty to represent their interests and feelings." We do not see how this is a "misleading" statement. It is a true statement of the case. The London Committee pretend that in this matter there is no real antagonism between the interests of the Native members and those of the European members. There may not be antagonism in the proper sense of the word, and yet there may be unfairness of dealing as between two parties. It is true, as we wrote last month before we heard of the decision of the House of Commons, that by paying to the Europeans their pensions at two shillings the the rupee, no injustice is done to the Native members, but it is also true that it would be showing partiality to the former, and the latter will have to pay for that partiality. No injustice is done to the Native members, and yet they are very unfairly dealt with. Mr. Eliot has told the Indian world that "pension is but deferred pay," and the same wonderful discovery was solemnly announced in the House of Commons by Mr. King. Well, if pension be only "deferred pay," why should the "deferred pay" of the European uncovenanted servant be one-third more, and possibly in future one-half more, than the "deferred pay" of the Native uncovenanted servant? If this is not injustice, it is next door to it,—it is partiality, it is an invidious distinction between the European and the Asiatic. If the European gets his pension at two shillings the Rupee, fairness of dealing demands that some adequate compensation should be made to the Native; otherwise the Native is unhandsomely dealt with. So far, therefore, from thinking that the Under-Secretary's statement was in any sense "misleading" we look upon it as a just and fair statement and we feel thankful to him for standing up as the champion of the Indian uncovenanted servants. The London Committee say that Mr. King so presented the matter in his speech as to preclude all idea of clashing interests. How? We have read every word that Mr. King uttered, and we did not notice the slightest allusion made by him to the Native members of the Uncovenanted service. He simply ignored their existence. It was chiefly on account of this that the Under-Secretary stood forth as the champion of the Native members. The London Committee add—"there is no reason whatever why the interests of the Natives should clash with those of the Europeans, or be stated to do so." Certainly, there is no reason why the two interests should clash; but the ugly thing is that they do clash in point of fact. Here are two uncovenanted servants, one Native and other European; while in service they get equal pay; but when they retire, the "deferred pay" of the one is one-third more than the "deferred pay" of the latter. Is this fair dealing? Another "misleading statement" with which Sir John Gorst is charged is, that in order to show that Native Uncovenanted servants greatly outnumbered the Europeans, he pointed out that there were in the Executive and Judicial Services only 139 Europeans, whereas there were 2,449 Natives ignoring large departments in which only Europeans were employed. But do the London Committee mean to deny that the great bulk of Uncovenanted servants are Natives? If not, why carp at the Under-Secretary's words? The third fault—it is now not a "misleading statement"—which the London Committee find in the Under-Secretary's speech, is the threat contained in the following words:—"He warned his honourable friend and the House, that any attempt unduly to extend the privileges of the European servants might give rise to such action as might result in the distinction between Europeans and Natives being swept away. He fully admitted that the Public Works and Telegraph Offices in India had been treated with exceptional favour; but he was afraid that the result of any agitation founded on that fact would be to inaugurate a system rather of levelling down than of levelling up." These words of the Under-Secretary have called the London Committee to the quick. Had we been present in the House we would have heartily cheered the Under-Secretary, and added—"So perish all invidious distinctions between the European and the Native." We heartily thank Sir John for the brave words which he has uttered. They are worthy of a true Englishman. It is now time that the policy of "levelling down" was set on foot, for it is a stigma on a great Government that it should make any distinction between the black and the white, between the Asiatic and the European. In the upper branch of the Educational Service the Native, who does the same work as the European, and does it as efficiently, draws only two-thirds pay of the latter. What is the reason of this unjust distinction? There is no other reason than the crime of colour. Sir John Gorst is quite right in saying that any attempt on the part of the Europeans to make further and wider distinction between them and the Natives of the Uncovenanted Service, might result in the effacing of that distinction which now exists. But the Europeans of the Service act on the well-known principle—"Give him an inch, and he'll take an ell." We are glad Sir John has told them plainly that this policy will not succeed. Instead of getting the ell, the inch will be taken away from them. Let not our European friends of the Uncovenanted Service think that we entertain hostile feelings towards them. All that we want is that the European members should have no higher privileges than the Native members. We want to see abolished all distinctions on the score of race and colour and creed. Let all have fair play and none favour. That day will be a glorious day in India when all such invidious distinctions shall be swept away as with the besom of destruction, and when brotherly feeling will animate the Anglo-Indian and the Indian. This is a consummation devoutly to be wished for.

Omitting the fourth "misleading statement" which in no way concerns us, we come to the fifth statement of which the London Committee speak in the following terms:—"In referring to the Native members of the Covenanted Service, Sir J. Gorst omitted to notice the fact that they only draw two-thirds of the amount of salary paid to the European members of that service, on the ground that they do not require such high salaries as their European fellow-servants." Is it possible that the London Committee are ignorant of the fact that Native Civil Servants get the full pay of the European Civil Servants? And yet this is a fact. Mr. S. N. Tagore, Mr. R. C. Dutt, Mr. B. N. De, and others, get the same pay as their European colleagues of their standing. If the fact had been otherwise, it would have been to the everlasting disgrace of the British Government. The Native members have passed through the same examinations in England, and some of them have stood higher in the list than most of the European candidates. Why then should they get less pay than the Europeans? To such depth of iniquity, we are glad to say, the Government has not yet descended. There is indeed a part of the Civil Service, called the Statutory Civil Service, which is neither fish nor fowl. They certainly get two-thirds pay, but they are nominees of Government,—the examination being merely a farce. We confess we were not prepared for the bare-faced statement made by the London Committee that Natives "do not require such high salaries as their European fellow-servants." The cool impudence of such an assertion passes all belief. Pray, why do Natives not require such high salaries? Can they not eat well and drink well? Can they not live in fine houses and drive about in elegant equipage? Are delicate viands, splendid mansions, and handsome carriages made for the European only and not for the Native? It is only Anglo-Indians whose brains have got addled by long residence in the Tropics, and whose moral susceptibilities have got blunted by lording over their fellowmen, who could make such a shameless assertion. The fact is, the Native has more expenses than the European. The European leads about his wife, and takes care only of his little children—the older ones shifting for themselves; the Native, under the joint family system, has to support all his relatives, though not very near. The European spends little or nothing at the time of his marriage; the Native spends on that occasion thousands upon thousands. The religious expenses of the European are almost *nil*; the respectable Native spends thousands of Rupees on his *pujas*. The European is like the palm-tree or the betel-nut-tree, having on his head only a tuft of leaves, in the shape of wife and young children; the Native is like the gigantic Banian tree, covering many acres of land, affording grateful shade to hundreds, and sending down branches which take root and become part of the one magnificent tree. Natives do not indeed require such high salaries as Europeans! All the silver and gold of the world are for Europeans, and only copper for the Natives! We have no patience with the bare-facedness, the impudence and the insolence of the London Committee's assertion. For the rest we do not expect the London Committee to be successful in their efforts; but if they be, the Native members of the Service should get adequate compensation.

PRIMARY EDUCATION IN INDIA.

DURING the last week there appeared in the *Englishman* four articles on the subject of education. In the first of these the writer charges us with taking "an extreme and an inaccurate view" of the recent educational resolution of the Government of India, and adds that he trusts he will succeed "in disabusing our contemporary of the false impressions under which he labours, and inspiring him with greater confidence than he is now inclined to repose in Lord Dufferin's sympathy in the cause of education in India." As we are fallible like other men it is possible we have taken "an extreme and an inaccurate view" of the resolution, and we should have been glad if our contemporary had corrected our mistake; but after reading the article in question more than once we do not find him make any attempt to point out the extremeness and inaccuracy of our view, far less to correct it. As for inspiring us with greater confidence than we are inclined to repose in Lord Dufferin's sympathy in the cause of education, our contemporary need not undertake that work of supererogation, since throughout His Excellency's administration, which is shortly to close, we have always had great confidence in his lordship's sympathy with the Natives of India in all matters affecting their welfare. We have high respect for His Excellency's character and ability, for the uprightness of his purposes and the benevolence of his motives. Though not acquainted with the secrets of State policy, nor admitted into the consultations of the Cabinet, we feel the difficulties of his lordship's position, hampered as he is both externally and internally. So far as his lordship is concerned personally, we have not the slightest doubt that he would have greatly promoted the cause of education; but circumstances, over which he had no control, stood in his way. We are thankful for what His Excellency has done, and as regards his unful-

filled purposes we accept the will for the deed. In our article on the educational policy of Government, in a recent issue, we argued that it is the primary duty of the State to educate the mass of the people, that is to say those millions who have not the means to educate themselves. This has become an axiom, a fundamental truth in modern politics. Our contemporary not only does not deny this truth, but makes the perception of it the chief merit of the resolution of the Government of India. "In its clear perception of this fundamental truth lies, in our judgment, the greatest merit of the Government resolution we are now discussing; and nothing could be more inaccurate or unfair to say of it, as the *Hindoo Patriot* does, that it merely tells the people that they 'can and ought to educate themselves.'" We are glad that our Government has at last perceived the truth which other Governments had perceived long ago. But our contemporary ought to know that the perception, however "clear," of a truth is not the same thing as doing according to that truth. The perception of one's duty is not the same thing as the discharge of that duty. The perception of duty is one thing, and discharge of duty quite another. The perception of a disease is one thing and the curing of the disease quite another thing. We perceive that a friend of ours has got cholera, our mere perception of the disease will not cure him,—remedies must be resorted to. A drunkard perceives from his enfeebled constitution and from the decay of his fortune, that it is his duty to become sober; but that mere perception will not cure him of his drunkenness nor induce in him the habit of sobriety,—a strong effort of the will and other appliances are necessary. The Government of India, we are told, has got "a clear perception" of its duty to educate the mass of the people. So far so good. Better late than never. But the question of questions is—What is the Government doing to educate the mass of the people? Its perception of duty will not of itself bring on the discharge of that duty. Appliances must be had recourse to, school-houses must be built, teachers must be supplied —these things will not drop down from the skies the moment Government has perceived its duty. But it will be said that Government has set on foot a scheme of grants-in-aid, or "subventions of money," as it is grandiloquently termed, by means of which Government will promote the cause of education in all parts of the country. We admit that this system of grants-in-aid may do in some parts of the country so far as English schools are concerned, but it is utterly powerless to educate those unnumbered millions who are unable to help themselves in the slightest degree, The Government of India, like Jupiter, will help only those that help themselves. But what of the millions who cannot help themselves, who eat only one meal a day, who put on rags instead of clothes, who live in pig-styes and dog-kennels and holes of the earth instead of houses? Will these millions perish for lack of knowledge? It will be said, however, that Government has established primary schools and subsidized the existing *patshalas* of the country. We are aware of this, and are thankful to Government for having done this. But what we maintain is that primary schools are insufficient for the country, considering the vastness of its population. Those primary schools touch only the middle classes and the upper strata of the lower classes, leaving untouched whole strata of the lower classes. Besides the peasantry we have millions of Haris, Bagdis, Doms, Dulias, Moochis, Chandals, and others of the lowest classes, who never darken the doors of any school-house, and who have remained sunk in the deepest ignorance from generation to generation. Government has not established any schools for these classes; and it is to be remembered that our jail population are mostly drawn from these lowest classes: so that one of the chief objects which Government wishes to accomplish, namely, the diminution of crime, is utterly frustrated, for the classes that commit crime receive no education whatever. Our contemporary speaks of "the *Patriot's* singular belief that the cause of law and order would be strengthened by disbanding the police and employing the pay that force receives in the promotion of education." We did not speak of disbanding the police. As long as thieves and rogues are to be found in the country—and they will be found, we suppose, till the end of the chapter—so long the police will be necessary. What we said was that more money spent on popular education than is now spent, would diminish crime, and a diminution of crime would diminish the expenditure on the police, and that therefore it was bad policy to gorge the police and starve the school-master. In this belief we are not singular, for our comtemporary shares in it. In the Resolution it is said—"In pursuance of this policy, the expenditure from Provincial revenues on Government educational institutions should not ordinarily increase in proportion to the total expenditure, but should rather be a constantly diminishing quantity, provided that there is the assurance that the ground abandoned by the Government is occupied by local effort." On this we have two remarks to make. In the first place, we are told here that in the districts where there is local effort, the Government of India expects a diminution of expenditure on education, and this expenditure to be a constantly diminishing quantity;" but we are not told that the saving thus effected would be spent in promoting primary education. Whenever Government gets the assurance that the ground will be occupied by local effort, it will abandon that ground, and help the local effort with a grant of money. But what becomes of the rest of the money heretofore spent in maintaining the College or school now transferred to local agency? Government does not give us the assurance that it will spend the balance in promoting primary education. So far as the resolution is concerned, the Government may be withdrawing the balance altogether from education and putting it into the coffers of the State. In the second place, there is abundant ground never occupied by the State, and where local effort is impossible, we mean the common peasantry and those lowest classes of the people to whom we have already alluded. We see nowhere in the Resolution that Government means to occupy this ground which is of vast extent, and from which the inmates of our jails are chiefly drawn. Not to extend the blessings of education to those very classes of the population who are most disposed to crime, is a policy which cannot recommend itself to any thoughtful person. Let not our contemporary run away with the idea that we are discontented with what Government has done in the matter of education. We are grateful for what Government has done; but our gratitude is of such a lively character that it expects yet greater benefits conferred on us.

THE HOME CHARGES.

THE report that Lord Cross has resolved to appoint a small departmental Committee to enquire into the Home Charges of the Government of India, has been confirmed. The Committee, we are told, will probably consist of two members of the India Council, with Mr. Henry Waterfield, the Financial Secretary of the India Office and an official from the Treasury. We need hardly say that every thing will depend on the selection of the two members of the India Council, who will sit on the Committee. Should Lord Cross's choice fall upon men like the Brothers Strachey, the Committee might not as well be appointed. During the past few years we have had several departmental Committees, but their labours have not resulted in much practical good. A departmental Committee, even if its *personnel* should be all that could be desired, cannot go beyond details. The late Mr. Fawcett has pertinently observed in his admirable volume on Indian Finance, that if the Government is determined that no effort shall be spared to secure every possible retrenchment in all the branches of the public service it will not merely do to deal with matters of detail, but that the system of Indian administration will have to be materially changed. A Royal Commission alone is competent to discuss principles and recommend radical changes. The events of the last few years have proved to demonstration that, in order to prevent the finances of India falling into hopeless embarrassment, it is absolutely essential that that policy of rigid economy in every branch in the public service, should be promptly and roughly carried out. The necessity of enforcing this economy is now fully admitted by Government; but the misfortune is that its deeds do not often coincide with its words. It will be remembered that in February last Mr. Evans, in his place in the Legislative Council, in the course of the debate on the financial situation, insisted in the strongest terms possible on the need of revising the Home charges, and that need has been emphasized by a further fall in exchange, which has gone down to sixteen pence. It is obvious that the Home charges cause India to feel the exchange. If we had no remittances to make to England, we would not care if the rupee fell to one shilling or even nine pence.

The reader knows that the principal Home charges are the cost of the India Office in London, interest on sterling loans, payment of pensions and the purchase of stores. The extravagance with which Indian affairs are conducted in England is notorious. The English Treasury bears the cost of the Colonial Office; but the India Office is maintained at the expense of the Indian tax-payer, and it is kept up on a very extravagant scale indeed. In order to understand this fully the expenditure of the India Office should be contrasted with that of the Colonial Office. The expenditure on salaries in the India Office amounts to about £150,000 yearly, and the total cost of the office to something like £250,000. Every farthing of this very large sum is of course defrayed from the revenues of India. The total cost of the Colonial Office is only about £40,000 as against nearly a quarter of a million spent on the India Office. These figures speak more eloquently than volumes of declamation would. Mr. Fawcett, in his volume, of which mention has been made above, writes:—"There is probably no country in which official salaries range so high, and this remark holds true not only with regard to those who are employed in the public service in India, but also with regard to many of the salaries which are paid at the India Office in London. One who holds a high position in the English Civil Service informs me that he has lately had occasion to make a comparison between the rates of pay in the English and Indian services, and that he finds that in numerous instances, for precisely the same work done, in England, a poor country like India pays 20 or 30 per cent. more than is paid by England with all her wealth." Is there any reason why the employes at the India Office should receive larger salaries than their brethern at the Colonial Office? We hope this matter will engage the serious attention of the Committee which Lord Cross is about to appoint. The entire cost of the India Office should be brought down to something like £10,000; and we have no hesitation whatever in saying that this would have been done if the expenditure had fallen upon the British exchequer. We also think it monstrous that India should still go on paying £15,000 a year towards Her Majesty's establishments in China and £10,000 yearly for an English mission to the court of Persia. These two items as well as the cost of the India Office ought in all fairness to be defrayed from the revenues of the United Kingdom.

As regards interest on sterling loans and payment of pensions, it must be admitted that the obligations already incurred in these respects must be discharged. But particular care should be taken not to increase them. Common fairness demands that a costly foreign agency should not be imported for doing work which can be satisfactorily performed by cheap indigenous labour. It is only by strictly acting upon this sound and just principle that the present heavy charges for pensions in England can be perceptibly reduced. But an important question of principle is involved in the case, with which a departmental Committee is powerless to deal. It is needless to say that the introduction of the Short Service system has materially added to our Home charges. This was specially mentioned by Mr. Evans in his speech in the Legislative Council, to which allusion has been made above. But it is semi-officially announced that Lord Cross has no intention of opening up this part of the subject. If this is really to be the case, it is far better

that his lordship should not appoint a Committee at all to enquire into the Home charges of the Government of India. We have repeatedly pointed out in these columns that although the system of Short Service may be a good arrangement for England, it does not necessarily follow that the system is calculated to promote either the economy or the efficiency of the military organisation of India. We know that India has at the present time to pay at least twice as much for her recruits as she would have to pay if she could obtain them for herself. In the days of the Company, when India had a European army of her own, she obtained her recruits at an extremely cheap rate. We have little hope that India will again be allowed to have a separate local army. But if it is necessary to make her compulsorily share in the costly military organisation of England, the greatest care should be taken not to throw upon her any charge which she would not have to bear if she were allowed to obtain recruits on her own terms, and make her own arrangements with the officers she employed. The pay of the private soldier and the non-commissioned officer is the same in India as in England; but the commissioned officers of the higher ranks are paid when serving in this country at least three times as much as at home. India surely is not a worse place for an English officer to live in than Sierra Leone or Canton. If he is stationed at these places his pay is provided by the English tax-payer, and the amount he receives is almost precisely the same as if he were serving in England. This state of things should not be allowed to exist, if even India be not allowed to withdraw from the partnership with England into which she has been compelled to enter in the matter of the army. We know that the question of a local European army for India is one with which the Committee about to be appointed by Lord Cross is not competent to deal. But if the labours of the Committee should fail to secure justice to the Indian tax-payer in the matter of the apportionment of the army expenditure between England and India, its appointment would not be justified. It is notorious that, under the present state of things, when the respective financial interests of England and India are in question, sufficient care is not taken to give adequate protection to India. Poor and helpless India is in many instances made to bear charges which ought to be paid by the English tax-payer. But this will continue to be the case so long as the influence of the House of Commons, with regard to the expenditure of Indian money in England, is not exerted on the side of justice and economy.

"A FEW PLAIN TRUTHS ABOUT INDIA."

WE hail with pleasure the appearance of the neatly got up brochure containing "a few plain truths about India" by the Right Hon'ble Sir Richard Garth, Q. C., late Chief Justice of Bengal. Whoever draws the attention of the British public to the proceedings of the Congress, or, in other terms, to the voice of United India is her true friend. Sir William Hunter has done much in this direction, and he will now find in Sir Richard Garth a most valuable co-adjutor. The late Chief Justice has dwelt on several of the most important questions discussed at the Congress, and it is no small gratification to find that in regard to all of them he fully sympathises with the views and aspirations of our countrymen. No other functionary in India has such frequent opportunities of getting an insight into the character and condition of her people, of their institutions and customs than the judicial officer. The opinions, therefore, of Sir Richard Garth, who for about eight years was at the head of the judicial administrations of Bengal and Behar and during that time came into daily contact with some of the best intellects of the country, are entitled to the greatest weight. Sir Richard justly deplores the apathy with which his countrymen regard Indian questions. "We are," he says, "full of foreign news and foreign politics. Every move upon the continent of Europe is watched and discussed with the greatest interest. But upon our own great Empire in the East, for whose welfare and good Government we are as responsible as we are for Great Britain itself, we rarely bestow a single thought." This is the greatest misfortune which India labours under. How to succeed in making ourselves heard by our rulers is the most difficult problem which has ever presented itself for solution. The Congress will have more than fulfilled our expectations if it proves to be an effectual means of proclaiming our political opinions.

In considering the proposal of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce for the submission of the financial budget at an annual meeting of the Viceroy's Council, a proposal which has received universal support in India, Sir Richard Garth very pertinently says:—"But surely there ought to be some constitutional means of enquiring into the truth of these matters; and I am free to confess that I very heartily sympathise both with the Chambers of Commerce and with the Native Congress in their disapproval of the present system of the budget. * * * But how is such a scrutiny to be effected? The budget accounts in India are at present not open to investigation. The public have no means whatever of ascertaining the necessity or propriety of the various charges; and the Government are, year after year, in the unpleasant position of being accused of wasteful extravagance, which, if duly examined and explained, might be found to be inevitable. Surely this is unsatisfactory, both for the Government and the people; and the remedy which is proposed for it, by the almost unanimous voice both of Natives and Europeans, seems reasonable enough. * * * We often hear it stated, indeed it is sometimes urged as a matter of reproach, that the discussion of the Indian Budget in the House of Commons is little better than a farce. And so it is. But that is not the fault of the House of Commons. It is the fault of the system of which the Indian public so sorely complains. What means, I would ask, has the House of Commons, when the Indian Budget comes on for discussion, of investigating the propriety of a single item in the accounts? Let a member of the House be ever so able, ever so conscientious, ever so well-disposed to do justice to India and to check undue expenditure, how is he to set about it? He has absolutely no information or materials to guide him. The accounts submitted to Parliament look well enough on paper; and however unwise or unreasonable the proposed expenditure may be, or however odious the taxation to the people, the accounts would not be likely to disclose it. But, if, on the other hand, the budget were always open to discussion in India in a properly constituted forum, if objections could be freely and fearlessly made to this or that mode of taxation, or this or that item of expenditure, if the debates in Council fairly represented the argument on either side, and a full report of the proceedings appeared in due course in the *Gazette*, the difficulty would be practically removed."

The chapter which Sir Richard Garth devotes to the consideration of Technical education and promotion of Industries and Manufactures is full of shrewd observations regarding the causes of the poverty of the people and the discontent of certain sections of the native community. We fully endorse the statement that "Sir William Hunter never said a truer word than he did in his lecture, reported in the *Times* of the 12th of May last, that India was now waiting for a commercial Viceroy, for an English statesman with breadth of mind to grasp the situation, and with firmness of purpose to give effect to his views." Sir Richard justly condemns the Railway policy of the Indian Government and is not more severe than all right-minded people are upon the Public Works Department. "That Department", he says, "is in fact a gigantic Government monopoly. It appropriates to itself not only railways but roads, canals, buildings, bridges, irrigation, drainage, and a thousand other works, both Civil and Military, which in England would be open to public competition. It expends upon its own staff of officers and servants several millions annually of the public money, which would otherwise be distributed amongst a vast variety of professions, trades and business, and would afford that very stimulus to private enterprise which India so urgently requires. I shall be told, I know, by those who approve of the present system, that the Government is bound to get its own work done as well and economically as possible; and that this can be better accomplished by means of its own staff than by employing private agency. I can only say that I believe this is by no means the general opinion, and I have heard it denied over and over again by those who are well qualified to form a correct judgment."

In regard to the question of the separation of judicial and executive functions Sir Richard Garth speaks with all the authority of experience. Nothing could be more condemnatory of the present system than a bare description of it. We shall give it in the words of the late Chief Justice himself. "Imagine, my good reader, an active young magistrate, having heard of some daring robbery which has alarmed the neighbourhood, taking Counsel; in the first place with the heads of the police, with a view of discovering the offender. After two or three vain attempts he succeeds at last, as he firmly believes, in finding the right man; and he then, still in concert with the police suggests inquiries, receives information, and hunts up evidence, (through their agency,) for the purpose of bringing home the charge to the suspected person. Having thus done his duty very zealously in the first stage of the case, he next proceeds to enquire, as a magistrate, whether the evidence which he himself has collected is sufficient to justify a committal; and having come to the conclusion not unnaturally that it is, he afterwards, upon the self-same evidence, tries the prisoner in his judicial capacity, without the assistance of a jury, and convicts him. However monstrous this may appear to an Engish public, the picture which I have presented is by no means overdrawn."

No less weighty are Sir Richard Garth's condemnations of the exorbitant rate of court-fees exacted from litigants in India. "It is clear, therefore, that the object of the Government in imposing this tax was *not to make suitors pay the whole cost of the civil courts*, and certainly not to burden them with a large surplus in addition; whereas the amount of the tax now raised in Bengal exceeds by at least one-half the entire expense of the Civil Courts. From the High Court Report, which was forwarded to the Government, for the year 1882, it appears that the total estimated cost of the Civil Courts in Bengal was Rs. 3,396,066, whilst the total income to the Government from the stamp fees was Rs. 6,612,933. This surplus had at that time been increasing for several years past, and I learn that it is now even larger than it was in the year 1882. The result is that Civil suitors in Bengal are not only made to pay the entire cost of the Civil Courts, but of the Criminal Courts also, besides contributing a very large surplus for the benefit of the general public."

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant-Governor returned to Calcutta on Saturday last. His Honor begins his second tour on Wednesday, the 15th, in the Eastern Districts. The tour will occupy about a month, and will end at Darjiling on September 14th.

THE defences of the Hooghly are being considerably strengthened. The Chingree Khall battery will be shortly constructed. The site has been selected after a careful survey and a land-acquisition Deputy Collector will soon be deputed to acquire the land.

MR. L. PALIT, Assistant Magistrate, Rajshahye, has been transferred to Sealdah.

OUR *Unpaid Magistrates* will in future be styled Presidency Magistrates, and the present Presidency Magistrates will be called Stipendiary Magistrates. This is certainly an improvement; but we are afraid it will not quite satisfy our late 'Honorary' friends.

THE better arming of Native regiments is progressing. About fifteen regiments have received Martini-Henry rifles.

LORD Dufferin, the Lahore paper hears, is having prepared by the several Secretariats of the Government of India, a note on the most important measures of his administration.

THE Mahomedan Association of the Punjab have sent a letter of congratulation to the Hon. Syed Amir Hossein, C.I.E; on his re-appointment to the Supreme Council. The Association have also thanked His Excellency the Viceroy for the re-appointment.

IT is understood that the coming interview between M. de Giers and Prince Bismarck will lead to the holding of a Congress at Berlin to deal solely with the Bulgarian question.

THE official report of the Select Committee on the Deccan Mining Company confirms the forecast telegraphed on the 4th instant. It considers that there was no deficiency in the remuneration which had been given to the Concessionaries for their previous services that entitled them to the mining concessions. The concessionaries used the concession for the realization of great gains which were not intended for them, and this was done to the injury of the Nizam's State with the assistance of Abdul Huk. In conclusion, the report deprecates direct communications between Native States and speculators.

SOME impatience is being felt in England also at the unusual delay of publishing the decision of Government on the Report of the Public Service Commission, and questions have been put in the House of Commons with regard to it. In reply to one of these questions Sir John Gorst informed the house on the 3rd instant that the Government has not decided as yet on the action it should take on the Report of the Commission. The Under-Secretary of State was, however, good enough to enlighten the House about one of the most important questions concerned and said that this much was certain that the Government had no intention to alter the limit of age of candidates of the Civil Service! The news is painfully disappointing. Nothing short of a sustained systematic and well-organised agitation in England will ever satisfactorily settle the vexed Civil Service age question.

THE District reports for the week before last show that the prospect of crops in all the districts is not quite so bad as was apprehended owing to the unusual delay of the monsoon. Rain has fallen almost everywhere, and though more is wanted in some of the Presidency districts and in Rajshahye the apprehension of scarcity in these districts is not very great for the present. Bad news, however, comes from Puri, where scarcity is spreading fast and the organisation of relief-work has been deemed necessary by Government officials. In the Cuttack District agricultural operations are in many places impeded for want of sufficient rain; while in Puri "rain is very urgently required for transplantation and puddling of the winter crop; if sufficient rain does not fall shortly, the crop will fail." Prompt steps will be taken, we have no doubt, to check the evil betimes, and Sir Steuart Bayely has already elaborated schemes of detail in this connection that cannot fail to give satisfaction.

THE Resolution of the Bengal Government on Mr. Kirkwood has been published. The High Court Judges were consulted, and pronounced Mr. Kirkwood's action in ordering the girl to be examined to be illegal. Their lordships had no doubt that Mr. Kirkwood acted in good faith, but as a Judge he should have known the law and have understood that, even if he had the power, it would be a grave indiscretion in him to exercise it. They consider his conduct highly reprehensible and ai think he ought not to be allowed to rem n Judge of Patna. Government ully concurs in this censure of Mr. Kirkwood's proceedings. As, however, he has applied for permission to retire from the service, it is thought unnecessary for the Lieutenant-Governor to consider the question of the punishment to which he would otherwise have been liable. We are glad to learn that Mr. Kirkwood has resigned the service on which he has brought shame and disgrace. He evidently thinks the force of public opinion is too much against him and has been well advised, for he would have been forced to do what he has the good sense of doing voluntarily.

IN a recent case at Howrah Mr. Currie, the magistrate, ordered the production in court of a married Hindoo girl whose custody was claimed by her father as against the husband, on the ground of extreme youth. The husband was unwilling to let her remain with the father who is said to be leading an immoral life, and was, we think, quite within his rights. The Hindoo law as every other civilized law gives a wife's custody to the husband however young she may be. Nothing short of positive cruelty and maltreatment would deprive him of such custody, and in the present case there is not the remotest suggestion that there has been anything of the kind. All that the father could urge was that the girl was unwilling to live at the husband's place and "in consequence she was subjecting herself to acts which threaten serious results." We are not aware that the law gives any power to our courts to encourage such waywardness and obstinacy, and the familiar devices of refusal to take food and nourishment unless sent to the father's place may with advantage be put a stop to. We are afraid Mr. Currie has overridden the law by ordering the girl to be produced in Court. It is necessary to watch that in the name of law the foundations of our social constitution be not undermined.

THE servants' monthly ticket system on the East India Railway line has been much abused of late, and the Company has had to rule that people travelling with servants' tickets will in future be required to wear badges 3 inches in diameter attached to belts to be worn when travelling on the line. We are afraid there are only too good grounds for modification of this concession and we have known of cases of abuse on other lines as well. But could not the Company devise some thing less objectionable and more effective than the uncomely *chapras*, as the general body of servants, some of them quite respectabie people in their position of life, will have serious objection to wear them,

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IT should be widely known that it has been recently ruled by Government that the State will not be responsible for any debts or liabilities incurred by the agents of the Commissariat department on account of purchases of goods on credit from vendors or sellers in general. These agents are charged with the storing or safe custody of the articles of this department in places appointed by Government. If they purchase any goods on credit, the vendors should understand that they do so without any authorty and on their own responsibility. They are always provided with funds for making purchases from the bazar. The Commissariat Department does not, therefore, pay the vendors' but the agents' bills. Some very grave injustice was done not long ago when large Commissariat bills were disallowed on similar pleas.

IT seems to be settled, to the misfortune of Hydrabad, that Sir Lepel Griffin will go there as Resident. Nawab Mhedi Ali, who just now represents the Nizam in England, was entertained at a dinner by Mr. H. S. King, M P. at the London Conservative Club on the 17th of July last, when Sir Lepel Griffin also was present, and was constrained to say in the course of his fter-dinner speech:—"I have learned this evening with the greatest satisfaction that Sir Lepel Griffin has accepted the appointment of British Resident at Hydrabad. Sir Lepel is one of the most distinguished members of the Indian Civil Service, a man of immense experience, gained on the ground, in the Native States. I cannot imagine an appointment more fortunate, and which carries with it a fairer promise of advantage for our State and of friendly support for our Government. The desire of many past Residents has been the well-being of Hyderabad and the support of His Highness's Ministers; and though sometimes errors of judgment may have occurred, yet Sir Lepel will find, when he comes amongst us, that our community never for a moment questions that the British Residents have ever been actuated by the highest principles and the loftiest motives. But what I venture to draw Sir Lepel's attention to, as of all things the most important, is that he can now bring to our State a period of political quietude, and help more than any other to destroy all those local intrigues which have very often during our past history impaired the administration of our State." Well conceived as the speech may be from a *Minister's* point of view, it will not remove the general impression that Sir Lepel's appointment to Hyderabad will be a calamity to that State.

A GOOD move has been made by the Trustees of the Indian Museum who have decided to allow the sale of Indian Art Ware in the Economic and Art Section of the Museum. A large collection of pottery from the most noted centres of manufacture has been obtained for sale as an experiment.

THE criminal prosecution against Mr. Crawford of Poona has been dropped. The charges against him will be investigated by a Commission.

AMONG the questions that will come before the Railway Conference is the proposal to establish only two classes of passenger carriages on the Indian railways, on the system which obtains on the Midland Railway in England. It is suggested that as a supplementary provision, facilities should be given to travellers desiring greater comfort to obtain at a moderate extra charge special carriages, or special accommodation in carriages fitted somewhat like Pullman cars. There is not the slightest objection to the latter arrangement. But the abolition of the intermediate class would be attended with grave inconvenience to the middle classes who are too poor to pay first class fare, and who cannot without degradation and discomfort travel with the great unwashed. The abolition of the intermediate class on Indian Railways would be nothing short of a calamity to the travelling public and must not be thought of. The second class also must be maintained for the accommodation of the better classes who do not care to travel first class.

THE East Coast Railway scheme, that is to connect Calcutta and Madras direct, is engaging serious attention of the Madras public. Mr. Turner, the Collector of Bimlipatam, addressed a large meeting held at that town the other day, and laid great stress on obtaining the co-operation of the Calcutta public, who, he said, might be asked to invite the LieutenantGovernor of Bengal to consider the proposal recently made by Sir. G. Molesworth to connect the East Coast Railway with Calcutta by a line from Cuttack through Balasore and Midnapur to the Hughli bridge. Such a line would be about 260 miles in length. Mr. Turner thinks it possible that the Bengal officers are unacquainted with the fitness of the country south of Cuttack for railway extension, and have felt some hesitation in proposing a line that might have to depend solely on local and pilgrim traffic. The canals, too, might have rival interests which it would be undesirable to jeopardise. However these things might be, Mr. Turner thinks that an East Coast trunk line will be a sound and profitable undertaking, and the Government of Bengal might regard with favour a proposal to have the country between Calcutta and Cuttack examined in view to a survey being arranged for. It would be for the Calcutta *public to bring this proposition*

to the notice of the Lieutenant-Governor. Mr Gupta, the Officiating Collector of Puri, has reported that the average number of pilgrims who visit that shrine annually is over 200,000. There is a vast number of shrines on the eastern sea-coast down to Cape Comorin, shrines which are constantly in the thoughts of all Hindus. The enormous numbers of pilgrims that would use the line would certainly give the Railway an amount of third class passenger traffic of quite abnormal proportions. If the East Coast Railway were completed between Bezwada and Calcutta, it would be the direct route between Calcutta and Haidrabad, shortening the present journey by, perhaps, 1,000 miles. Mr. Turner was very emphatic on the necessity of preventing this railway being taken up by bits. The line should be constructed, he thinks, as one of the trunk railways of India. We trust the Calcutta public will not be slow to respond to the Madras invitation. The question is fully worth the serious consideration of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and the National Chamber of Commerce. The question of funds has to be carefully considered, for although on an undertaking like this Government might be asked and expected to agree to a reasonable guarantee, the scheme must largely depend for its success on private enterprise.

MR. MARSDEN has made a ruling which will seriously inconvenience the Hindu community. Recently a well-known Barrister-at-law, appeared before him and applied on behalf of a Hindu lady for the issue of a commission to take her evidence as a witness in a case before his Worship. This lady had been summoned as a witness in the case of an attempt to cheat the Currency Office. His Worship observed that it could do the lady no harm to come to Court in a palkee, which would be the only inconvenience she would undergo; while, on the other hand, by issuing a commisson, counsel, attorneys, and everybody else concerned would be not only seriously put to inconvenience, but to great expense, waste of time, loss and delay, all because a lady objected to do a thing which she would rather not do. His Worship refused the application, observing that, simply for a lady's prejudice against appearing in Court, he declined to put other people to any amount of expense, delay, loss of time and inconvenience. He was also of opinion that to grant the request would be to do serious injustice to the accused persons, and he did not see the slighest reason for issuing a commission to take the evidence of the lady. If counsel considered that his decision was wrong, there was yet time for an application to be made to the High Court. We trust the High Court will be moved in the interest of the public, if it has not been moved already. Our Civil Courts always respect the usages and customs of the country, and commissions are daily issued for taking the evidence of ladies of position who do not appear before the public. There is no reason why the same rule should not be observed in Criminal Courts as well and why every felon should have an opportunity of getting off by citing Hindoo or Mahomedan ladies of respectable families as witnesses, knowing full well that those that have instituted proceedings would much rather compromise the case than allow their ladies to appear in public.

WE much regret to learn that Babu Jogendro Nath Mukerjee, partner of the Hon'ble Babu Kalinath Mitra, committed suicide on Tuesday last. About 8 A. M. on Tuesday, he went to a vacant house, in Ramkristo Bose's Street, belonging to a relative of his; and he told the durwan that some respectable people were coming to look at the house. The durwan informed him that he had occasion to leave the house for a short time on some business for his master, on which the deceased told him to wait for a short while till he returned, and he would remain to receive the people who were expected. Deceased then went away, and returned after the lapse of about 20 minutes. The durwan then left and on returning about 10-30, he found the door bolted from inside. He called at, and on receiving no reply, he informed the father of the deceased of what had taken place. The door was opened and in an upper room the deceased was found lying dead. With an empty phial of hydrocyanic acid close by his side and a lead pencil and a piece of paper with the word "suicided" written on it in a trembling hand. The hand-writing was identified by his brother as that of the deceased. The deceased was a rising Attorney and was much liked in the profession and by those with whom he came into contact.

THE *Englishman* announces that "in order to meet the objection to the Calcutta Municipal Bill founded on the statutory limits of the town, a short Bill will shortly be introduced into the Council." If this news be true, and there is no reason to doubt that it is, it leaves unsaid what the public of Calcutta is most interested in, *i. e.* that the new Municipal Bill has been vetoed. If the provisions in the Bill about the amalgamation of parts of the Suburbs with Calcutta be *ultra vires*, the Bill which contains them must of necessity fall with them. It would be absurd to suppose that the passed Municipal Bill will be kept in abeyance, and that on the "short" legalising Bill being passed it will receive the assent of the Viceroy. The Municipal Bill was *passed* in March, and it was then *ultra vires*, and no Bill passed in the following September or October can make it legal, unless the Government should pass an *ex post facto* law having a most arbitrary retrospective effect. We have too high a respect for Mr. Scoble to think for a moment that he would advise the Government to follow such a course. If he had been capable of that he would not have advised an amending Act. Nor is it likely that the Bill can be carried through the Council without a previous enquiry. Certain officials and their fags for the last six months iterated and reiterated *ad nauseam* that the amalgamation was resolved upon *after* due enquiry made by a "Special Commission" appointed for the purpose; but it is totally unfounded on fact. The Commission they refer to was, in the letter appointing it, told in so many words that it should not open the question of the advisability or utility of the amalgamation, as the Government had already resolved to carry it out, and that the duty of the members of the Commission should be limited to the boundary line which would be most convenient for the amalgamated area.

FOR five long days our contemporary of the *Englishman* has been busy roaming about for a reply to our last week's article on sanitation, and has at last stumbled into a mare's nest. "If native towns," he says, "as a whole, are to be civilized, and not to remain undrained swamps and depots of disease, their administrations must be placed under the direction of European thought and energy." Quite so; and that was the reason why mufassil towns under the administration of *Khas* Civilians for half a century, became gardens of Eden and lapsed into swamps and "depots of disease" when they fell into the hands of the natives. It was under captain Steel and subsequently under the dead weight of the Bengal, Behar and Orissa Justices that Calcutta was what it was, and has become what it now is under the natives. It was under English supervision and administration that *bandstands* were set up on parade-grounds with municipal money, and the town proper was left to the scavengering of kites, crows and vultures. It was under European prevalence that life-size bronze nudes were set up by the side of Chowringhee Road as decorations, while many parts of the native town were crying hoarse for oil-lamps. One most serious charge against the native obstructionists is that they prevented subsidies to go from the municipal exchequer to Italian Opera companies and town-bands. Under a new Municipal law this defect is to be rectified, and our English fellow-citizens will have here as great a profusion of turtle soup and dry monopole at public cost as they have in London.

N. B.—Our contemporary heartily joined the natives and the non-official Europeans in their outcry against the Bengal, Behar and Orissa justices; *i. e*, depriving the town of "European thought and energy," but then he was "tobogganing down flirtation's slippery slide with another one."

ON the 9th instant Sir John Gorst made a statement on the Budget and explained that the deficit was entirely due to special expenditure on the defences and on Burma, where, however, it was expected that there would be a gradual increase of expenditure. The Government expected that they would be able to impose a land tax at its full rate, within five years of the annexation. The revenue in Burma was already increasing by £300,000. Mr. Bradlaugh suggested that a Committee, including Natives, be appointed to enquire into the administration of India. Mr. Maclean deprecated the appointment of a Committee, as it would tend to plunge India into prolonged and incessant political agitation. He favoured the reduction of the India Council, and suggested that members of that body be appointed for a term of five years only. Sir Roper Lethbridge advocated an inquiry in order to permit the officials implicated in the Deccan Mining Concession to defend themselves. Sir W. C. Plowden moved an amendment, the object of which was to admit Natives to the highest posts in India with a view to economy, and to favour the suppression of the military commands of Madras and Bombay. Sir John Gorst said that this would not economize, but would tend to increase centralization. He deprecated an inquiry, dwelt upon the improved condition of the people and pointed out the increase in the imports and exports of India. On a division Sir W. C. Plowden's amendment was rejeted by 105 against 36 votes. The Budget was then adopted without a division. Defeats of this nature are quite familiar to us. We are glad, however, that some interest was excited in the matter through the instrument of a statement issued by the Indian Political Agency for the information of members of Parliament that there has been no enquiry into Indian affairs for thirty-five years and that India is in a worse position under the Crown than under the E. I. Company. Secondly, the condition of India, alike in improvement and deterioration, calls for enquiry—(*a*) in the matter of education; (*b*) extension of Local-Government institutions; (*c*) the economic difficulties of the country, reference being made to 16 famines between the years 1860-61 to 1876-78, showing a famine mortality of over twelve millions of souls. A sub-heading in this section deals with the Exceeding Great Poverty of the People. In support of this contention there are quotations from Lord Lawrence, Sir W. W. Hunter, Sir Charles Elliott, Mr. Robertson, of Madras, the Orissa Famine Report, Mr. Dadabhoy Naoroji, and Sir Grant-Duff. The other points for notice are the annually increasing drain from India to England coolie emigration, to Assam, Calcutta Municipal Bill. England's unredeemed pledges to India, Disarmament of the people, Abkari and Outstill system. The statement closes with a vindication of the spirit in which Reforms have been urged by the National Congress. The "statement" is worth the serious study of all interested in Indian welfare and should be considered very carefully.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—The Medical Profession of all countries now consider Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil as incomparably the most valuable remedy for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest. No remedy so rapdily restores the exhausted strength, improves the nutritive functions, stops emaciation, checks the respiration, quiets the cough and expectoration or produces a more marked and favourable influence on the local malady. Dr. Waudby, Physician to the Hereford Infirmary, writes:—"I can take Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil without any difficulty or dislike, and with as little inconvenience as water alone. Not only in my own case, but in many others I have seen, it has caused an improvement of chest symptoms and an increase of weight, so soon and so lastingly, as to be quite remarkable. I believe Dr. de Jongh's Oil to be the most valuable remedy we possess for chronic and constitutional disease." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarters, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignee, Ansar, Harrord and Co., 210, High Holborn, London.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

WE HAVE to ocknowledge with thanks the following books and pamphlets:

1. General Report on the Operations of the Survey of India Department, 1886-87.
2. Total Quantities of the Principal articles carried by Rail and River in British India, October to December 1887.
3. Grantharatnamala, for June 1888.
4. Central Provinces Judicial Report for 1887.
5. Notes on the annual statements of the Government Charitable Dispensaries in C. P. for 1887.
6. Annual Report of the Protector of Immigrants for 1887.
7. Report on the Lunatic Asylums in C. P. for 1887.
8. The Prison Report of Lower Burma for 1887.
9. The Voice of India for June, 1888.
10, The Theosophist for July, 1888.

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette,—*August* 8, 1888.

GENERAL.—Babu Upendro Chunder Mukerji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, attached to the Midnapore District, is vested with the powers of a Collector under section 4 of the Public Demands Recovery Act VII (B.C.) of 1880 in that District.

Mr L Palit, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Rajshahye, is transferred to Sealdah, in the District of the 24-Pergunnahs, during the absence, on deputation, of Kumar Gopendra Krishna, or until further orders.

Moulvi Mahomed Abdurrauf, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bhaugulpore, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code.

The Hon'ble T. T. Allen, Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 15th instant, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr C B Garrett, District and Sessions Judge, 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed to act as Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, during the absence on leave, of the Hon'ble T. T. Allen, or until further orders.

Mr J F Bradbury is appointed to act temporarily as Additional Sessions Judge of the 24-Pergunnahs and Hughly, in addition to his own duties as Temporary Additional District Judge of the 24-Pergunnahs.

Mr H Beveridge is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of the 24-Pergunnahs, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. C. B. Garrett, or until further orders.

Babu Otul Chunder Chatterji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rungpore, is appointed to have charge of the Kurigram Sub-Division of that District.

Mr A C Mackertich, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sasseram, Shahabad, is vested with the powers of a Collector, under Act X of 1870, in the District of Shahabad.

The services of Mr. P. Nolan, Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General, Revenue and Statistical Departments, are placed at the disposal of the Government of India, in the Revenue and Agricultural Department, with effect from the 23rd July 1888.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.—Shah Abdul Razak and Aga Sultan Taffazul Hossein are appointed to be Honorary Magistrate of the Bench at Sasseram, in the District of Shahabad, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Babu Taruk Nath Dutt, D L, is appointed to be an Extra Munsiff in the District of Tipperah for six months, to be employed in assisting the Munsiffs of Gouripura and Brahmanberiah.

Babu Upendro Chunder Mullick, Subordinate Judge and Judge of the Court of Small Causes, Monghyr, is allowed leave for one month, under rule 2, section 73 of the Civil Leave Code with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Babu Girish Chunder Chatterji, Second Subordinate Judge Tirhut, is appointed to act temporarily as Subordinate Judge and Judge of the Court of Small Causes, Monghyr, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Upendro Nath Mullick, or until further orders.

Babu Ananta Ram Ghose, First Musiff of Gya, is appointed to act as a Subordinate Judge of Tirhut, during the absence, on deputation, of Babu Girish Chunder Chatterji, or until further orders.

Moulvi Ali Ahmad, B L, is appointed to act as a Munsiff in the District of Gya, to be ordinarily stationed at the sudder station, during the absence, on deputation of Babu Ananta Ram Ghose, or until further orders.

Babu Bhugwan Chunder Chatterji, Additional Subordinate Judge, shahabad, on deputation as Officiating Second Subordinate Judge of Chittagong, is allowed leave for eighteen days, viz., seventeen days under rule 3, section 73 of the Civil Leave Code, and the remaining one day under rule 1 of the same section of the Code, with effect from the 10th instant, or such subsequent date as he may be relieved.

Babu Abhoy Churn Ghose and Munshi Hafizar Rahaman Ahmed are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Bench at Bhuddruck, in the District of Balasore, and are vested with the powers of Magistrate of the third class.

The undermentioned gentlemen are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates for the General Bench at Jahanabad, in the District of Hughly, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class—

Babu Bhudeb Chatterji, and Babu Kedar Nath Nath.

Babu Ramgati Mukerji is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate for the Independent Bench at Cutwa, in the District of Burdwan, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

The undermentioned gentlemen are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates for the Bench at the sudder station of the District of Bhaugulpore, and are vested with powers of a Magistrate of a third class:—

Babu Girdhary Lall Sahu, Babu Jaggernath Ram, Babu Bhagwan Prashad Chowbe, Moulvi Shah Mohammad Huda, Babu Gopal Chunder Mitter, Moulvi Syed Sha Mahomad Sharifulalam, Babu Chunder Cumar Pal, Moulvi Ahmed Hossein and Babu Parbuty Churn Mukerji.

Mr P A Charrier and Babu Dwarka Nath are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Bench at Dinapore, in the District of Patna, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Babu Behary Lal Pundit of his appointment of Honorary Magistrate of the sudder bench at Cuttack.

Babu Kally Churn Ghosal, First Munsiff of Satkhira, in the District of Jessore, is appointed to act as a Subordinate Judge of Chittagong, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Bhugwan Chunder Chatterji or until further orders.

Babu Nritya Gopal Goswami, B L, is appointed to act as a Munsiff in the District of Jessore, to be ordinarily stationed at Satkhira, during the absence, on deputation, of Babu Kally Churn Ghosal, or until further orders.

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For 15 distinct sorts of Sutton's fresh English vegetable seeds consisting of various sorts of cabbages &c. packed in ornamental tin box in England at Rs. 3 a packet.

For 15 distinct varieties of Sutton's fresh English choice and all-double flower seeds packed in ornamental tin box in England Rs. 3-8 a packet.

For 30 distinct sorts of fresh American vegetable seeds consisting of various sorts of cabbages &c. packed here at Rs. 4 a packet.

Potatoe seeds—Rs 5 per tola and ans. 12 per packet.

Durable hedge seed— Rs. 1 per tola.

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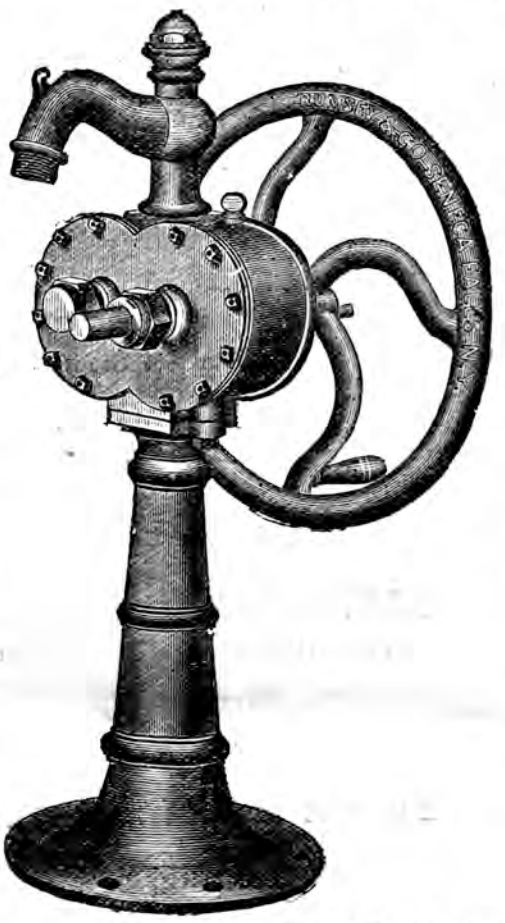

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